Hindi Typewriters in the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs

†3922. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of such offices under the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs where there is not a single Hindi typewriter so far;

(b) the reasons for not purchasing the Hindi typewriters so far and the officers responsible for such kind of negligence; and

(c) the action taken to ensure the compliance of targets fixed for the purchase of Hindi typewriter by Department of Official Language in its annual Hindi programme?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFIARS (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : (a) to (c) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Demand of Lawyers on Strike

3923. SHRI C. M. IBRAHIM : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) What are the main demands of the lawyers including modifications in law who have been on strike for over a month indicating the impugned provisions protested against;

(b) what steps have been taken to resolve the issues involved;

(c) the arrears of pending cases with the Supreme Court and High Courts at the beginning of the strike and how far it swelled by the end of strike or till April, 2000; and

(d) the number of under-trials with charges of bailable offences who could not be bailed out due to strike ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : (a) and (b) The main demands of the lawyers are (a) that the proposed amendments to the Civil Procedure Code be notified only after discussions with the Bar, (b) that the entry of foreign lawyers in

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

India be not permitted until a complete and detailed discussion with the Bar and (c) that the Advocates Act be not amended without consultation with the Bar, which have been accepted by the Government. The strike, however, continued due to the episode of lathicharge on the agitating lawyers by police on 24-02-2000. The lawyers further demanded an inquiry by a commission headed by a sitting Judge of Supreme Court and termination of erring police officials. A Commission of Inquiry consisting of Hon'ble Shri Justice C.T. Nanavati, a retired judge of Supreme Court of India, has been appointed by the Government.

(c) and (d) Information is being collected from the Supreme Court, various High Courts and Subordinate courts and will be laid on the table of the house.

Double Laning of NH-44

3924. SHRI KHAGEN DAS : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) Whether government have received any proposal from the State Government for doubling of the National Highway No. 44 in Tripura;

(b) if so, by when the double laning work would be undertaken; and

(c) if there is no such plan, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) (a) to (c) The State Government is not concerned as NH 44 in Tripura has been entrusted to Border Roads Organisation who have forwarded a proposal for widening of the National Highway to 2 lane. The same has been accepted in principle. The work will be taken up in phases depending upon availability of funds, *inter-se* priority, traffic volume etc. As such, the date by which the widening work would be undertaken cannot be indicated.

Amendment in Central Motor Vehicles Rule, 1989

3925. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT : Will the Minister of SUREACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) Whether it is a fact that State Government of Gujarat has proposed for the exemption from getting prototype certificate to minitractors which is required under rule, 126 of the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989;